



Docket No.: 244123US2



COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/687,628

Applicants: Tetsuya IWASAKI

Filing Date: October 20, 2003

For: LENS BARREL AND CAMERA

Group Art Unit: 2873

Examiner: THOMPSON, T.

SIR:

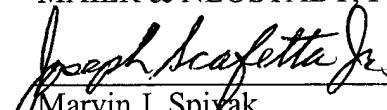
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Our check in the amount of **\$0.00** is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

TETSUYA IWASAKI

: EXAMINER: THOMPSON, T.

SERIAL NO: 10/687,628

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FILED: OCTOBER 20, 2003

: GROUP ART UNIT: 2873

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COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

The Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance included at page 3 of the Notice of Allowance mailed October 21, 2004, characterizes the invention in terms of a cam "configured to suppress an increase in a rotational torque during movement of the cam follower between the photographing state and the collapsed state." Applicants respectfully assert, however, that independent Claim 9 does not recite a cam "configured to suppress an increase in a rotational torque during movement of the cam follower between the photographing state and the collapsed state." Thus, Applicants respectfully assert that the statement mischaracterizes the invention in unduly narrow terms that are not consistent with the actual claim language.

Application No. 10/687,628  
Reply to Notice of Allowance of October 21, 2004

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully assert that independent Claim 9 is understood not to require the respective features.

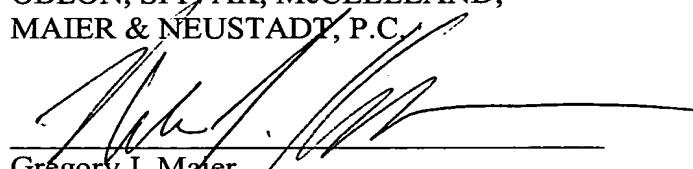
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